

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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| <b>SUBJECT</b>               | Miscellaneous Information on an Atomic Center near Leninabad, Industry at Begovat, and Coal Mines in the Kirgiz SSR | <b>DATE DISTR.</b>     | 15 August 1957 |
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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

brief information on an atomic center at Sotsgorod (sic), located 15 kilometers north or northeast of Leninabad. This report also includes fragmentary information on the metallurgical and cement industries in Begovat, Uzbek SSR, and coal mines in the Sulyukta, Shurab, and Kyzyl Kiya areas of the Kirgiz SSR. An annotated sketch of the Leninabad area, not drawn to scale, is also included.

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| (Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".) |   |      |   |      |   |     |   |     |   |     |   |        |   |

# INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

A. SOVIET GROUND FORCESa. Atomic CentersAtomic Plant at Sotsgorod (Leninabad) (Jan 57)

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General Remarks

At some unspecified time after the war an atomic plant was built in the vicinity of Sotsgorod; it is now <sup>in</sup> operation.

Sotsgorod is located about 15 kilometers north or northeast of Leninabad; it is not exactly certain on which side of the Syr-Dar'ya River it is located (see attached sketch No. 1). It exhibits the following geographic feature: In contrast to Leninabad, which is in the Republic of <sup>TADZHIK</sup> ~~Kirgiziya~~, Sotsgorod is in the Republic of <sup>USSR</sup> Tadjikistan; hence, the administrative border of the two republics runs between the two localities.

The plant was located in a valley enclosed by mountains 1,000 to 1,300 meters high. It is not known whether its installations and equipment are in surface structures, or in caves, or partly on the surface and partly in caves.

Activity of the Plant

Not exactly known. [ ] "the atomic is being processed" (this is the expression [ ] heard [ ] spoken many times).

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Security Measures

The blue- and white-collar workers of the plant were politically selected. Furthermore, at the plant's entrance the workers are blindfolded and taken in closed vans to their places of work.

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[REDACTED]

An examination is made of the documents of passengers alighting of Sotsgorod from the bus to Leninabad, of their permits to enter the city-which they must have--and of the reason for their arrival. Passers-by lingering in this vicinity of the plant are immediately subjected to questioning.

Note: In March 1956, the Karakumskaya Gidroelektrostantsiya was opened in Leninabad. Presidium member Kaganovich attended the opening. It is probable that the presence of such a high personage was due to the fact that the station was built to satisfy the power needs of the nearby atomic plant.

b. Storage Depots

Explosives Depot at Shurab (approximately 100 kilometers East of Leninabad) (Jan 57)

General Remarks

Only its existence is known. [REDACTED] deduces this information from the fact that the explosives used in the Sulyukta coal mines come from Shurab.

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B. SOVIET ECONOMIC INFORMATION

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a. Industry

Metallurgical Plant at Begovat (approximately 65 kilometers west of Leninabad) (Jan 57)

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General Remarks

All that is known is that a metallurgical plant is in operation at Begovat. It is located between Begovat and the Chilkovo railroad station (see attached sketch No. 1)

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There ~~are~~ no data available regarding its capacity and the destination of its production

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Cement Works at Begovat (Leninabad) (Jan 57)

All that is known is that a cement works is in operation in the city of Begovat.

b. Mines

Coal Basin in the Region of Sulyukta (approximately 40 kilometers east of Leninabad) (Jan 57)

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General Remarks

In the Sulyukta region the exploitation of a pit-coal basin is in progress. It consists of deposits whose exploitation was begun before the war. Sulyukta is a community of about 20,000 inhabitants, and the workers are almost all employed in the coal mines. The coal has a good calorific value; it is used on railroads and in factories, as well as for iron-working purposes. The exploitation is directed by the Kirizugol' "Trest" (Kirgiz Coal Trust), whose headquarters is at Os[?].

There are four mines operating in the region, designated as follows: Mine No. 2/8, Mine No. 4, Mine No. 6, and Mine No. 9. To each numeral corresponds a mine shaft. Mine No 2/8 actually indicates Shaft No. 8, which had absorbed the old, depleted Shaft No. 2, now definitely closed but continuing to bear this designation. The numerals not mentioned between "1" and "9" are those which designate depleted shafts now closed.

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**SECRET**Railroad Connection

The Sulyukta mining region is served by a narrow-gauge rail line which originated at the Proletarsk railroad station and terminates at the last mine.

Production

Total production is approximately 2,000 tons of coal per <sup>24 hour</sup>~~24-hour~~ day. It is transported into <sup>the</sup>~~this~~ interior of the Soviet Union by rail.

MinesMine No. 2/8

Has one mines shaft and one shaft for the workers' elevator. As of January 1957; it operated at three ~~levels~~; the maximum depth reached is unknown.

Director: Bulamsayev [redacted]

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Workers: about 3,000, working in three shifts

Production: about 530 tons per day, equal to the quantity anticipated by the production plan.

Mine No. 4

Has one mine shaft and one shaft for the workers' elevator.

Director: unknown.

Engineers (known): Simon Kaplinskiy [redacted]

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Workers: about 2,000, working in three shifts.

Production: about 800 tons per 24-hour day.

Mine No. 6

Has one mine shaft and one elevator shaft.

Workers: about 350, working in three shifts.

Production: about 300 tons per 24-hour day.

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**SECRET**Mine No. 9

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Has one mine shaft and one elevator shaft.

Workers: about 350.

Production: about 400 tons per 24-hour day.

Further Development

Drilling and operations to open up new shafts are constantly in progress in this area. There are no data on the estimated amount of coal which the basin contains.

Other Coal Mines in Kirgiziya (Jan 57)General Remarks

Old coal mines are in operation at Kyzyl-kiya, 50-60 kilometers from Angilzan [?] and at Kok-Jangak, 50-60 kilometers from Dzhalsay.

Other coal mines are in operation at Shurab, about 100 kilometers east of Leninabad.

c. Motive Power

Hydroelectric Power Plant at Begovat (located about 65 kilometers west of Leninabad) (Jan 57)

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Sulyukta.

General Remarks

It is a new hydroelectric power plant built on the Syr-Dar'ya River. It went into operation in 1947-1948.

Karakumskaya Gidroelectrostantsiya at Leninabad (Jan 57)

"Karakumskaya Hydroelectric Power Plant"

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**SECRET**General Remarks

It was opened in March 1956; attending the opening was Presidium member Kaganovich.

It is not known exactly whether the plant uses water from the Syr-Dar'ya River, nor what its capacity is.

Leninabad has several textile enterprises, but it is probable that power is also supplied to the atomic plant in the vicinity of Sotagorod.

d. Wages

Current Wages at Sulyukta (Leninabad) (Jan 57)

In the Mines

Miners on preparatory work: 48 rubles per 8-hour day.

Assistant miners on preparatory work: 35.5 rubles per 8-hour day.

Laborers: 21.94 rubles per 8-hour day (Maximum).

The pay is inadequate to meet the high prices of food and clothing.

One kilogram of dark bread costs 1.42 rubles; meat, 16-18 rubles per kilogram; and sugar, 10 rubles per kilogram. Moreover, food deliveries are disorganized and irregular; hence, the black market and speculation by hoarders are well developed, leading to a further increase in prices.

Attachment No. 1

TARGETS IN THE LENINABAD AREA

[Sketch Map] Not drawn to scale

Legend

- 1) Metallurgical plant
- 2) Atomic plant
- 3) Explosives storage depot

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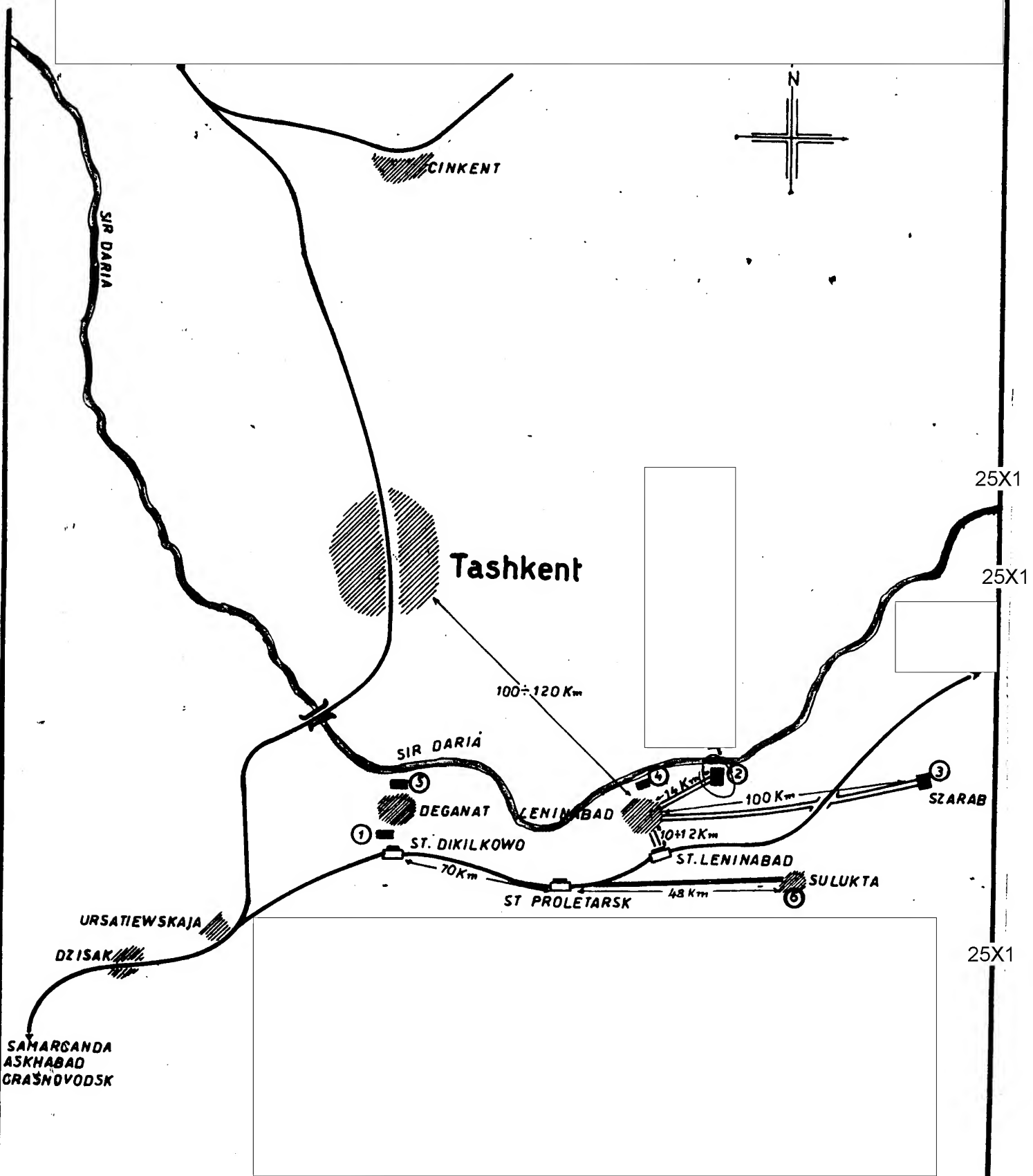
- 4) **Karakumskaya Hydroelectric Power Plant**
- 5) **Hydroelectric power plant**
- 6) **Pit-coal mines**

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